

Borough of New Windsor



Annual Reports

OF

THE MEDICAL OFFICER
OF HEALTH,

THE HEALTH VISITOR

AND THE

SANITARY INSPECTOR

For the Year, 1938

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PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

Chairman : Councillor G. E. SHORT

Vice-Chairman : Councillor J. C. POWELL, J.P.

The Mayor : Councillor Mrs. F. M. CARTERET-CAREY, O.B.E.

Alderman A. W. GREEN

Councillor E. C. CUSHING

„ P. HAMILTON

„ R. H. DUNN

„ A. HARRIS, J.P.

„ F. I. FUZZENS

„ A. WELLS

„ Rev. G. G. PAYNE COOK

Councillor H. ATKINS

„ J. PROCTER

„ N. C. BUTLER

„ J. G. H. VIDLER

„ Lt.-Col. Sir ARTHUR CHURCHER

„ Capt. E. COPLAND-GRIFFITHS

Public Health Officers of the Borough.

<i>Name</i>	<i>Appointment</i>	<i>Qualifications</i>	<i>Whole or Part time</i>	<i>Other Appointments</i>
Dr. A. Douglas Crofts	Medical Officer of Health	M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. (Lond.)	Part	Medical Officer Maternity & Child Wel- fare, School Med. Officer.
Dr. S. V. Strong ...	Deputy Medical Officer of Health	M.B., B.S. (Lond.)	Part	—
Alan W. Stewart ...	Public Analyst	D.Sc., A.I.C. ...	Part	—
Mr. H. Treleaven ...	School Dental Surgeon	L.D.S., R.C.S. ...	Part	—
Miss A. I. McAllister	Health Visitor	Health Visitors Cert. National Health Society. Certificate Sani- tary Inspector's Examination Bd. Diploma C.M.B.	Whole	Infant Protec- tion Visitor.
Miss C. Hart ...	School Nurse	Qualified Nurse Diploma C.M.B.	Whole	—
Mr. F. Arnold ...	Chief Sanitary Inspector	Cert. R.S.I., Cert. S.I.E.B., Special Cert. of R.S.I. as Meat and Food Inspector.	Whole	S a m p l i n g Officer under Food & Drugs Act. Canal Boats Inspec- tor. Degis- nated Officer for Housing Regulations, Meat Regu- lations, and Merchandize Marks Act.
Mr. R. W. Bashford	Additional Sanitary Inspector	Certi R.S.I. ...	Whole	Resigned Sep- tember, 1938
Mr. E. G. Pollard ...	Ditto ...	Cert. R.S.I. and S.I.E.B., Special Cert. of R.S.I. as Meat and Food Inspector	Whole	Appointed Dec., 1938

Borough of New Windsor

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health.

1938.

TO THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS OF
THE BOROUGH OF NEW WINDSOR.

MR. MAYOR AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present to you my ANNUAL
REPORT as Medical Officer of Health for the year 1938.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area (in acres)	...	...	...	...	...	...	4,616
Census Population, 1931	...	...	...	...	...	...	20,284
Registrar General's Estimate of Resident Population, mid.-1938	...	...	...	...	...	...	19,430
Number of Inhabited Houses (end of 1938) according to Rate Books	...	...	...	...	...	...	4,890
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	...	...	£168,699
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	...	...	...	...	...	...	£646

The Registrar-General's Estimate of the Resident Population is 19,430, as compared with 19,400 for the previous year. The rateable value has increased by £3,539, the Penny Rate producing £646, as against £633 for the previous year.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

BIRTHS.

					<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Total.</i>		
Live Births	132	...	121	...	253
Live Births	{	Legitimate	...	...	127	...	117	...	244
		Illegitimate	...	...	5	...	4	...	9
Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated Resident Population				...	...				13.02
Still Births	10	...	2	...	12
Still Births	{	Legitimate	...	...	8	...	1	...	9
		Illegitimate	...	...	2	...	1	...	3
Rate per 1,000 total (live and still births) Births				...	...	...			13.6

DEATHS.

					<i>Males.</i>		<i>Females.</i>		<i>Total.</i>
Deaths	...	...	...	...	124	...	136	...	260
Death Rate per 1,000 of the Estimated				Resident Population	...	...			13.3
Deaths from Diseases and Accidents				of Pregnancy and Childbirth :					
From Sepsis				...	...	...			<i>Nil</i>
From other Causes				...	...				<i>Nil</i>
Death Rate of Infants under one year				of age :					
All Infants per 1,000 live births...									47.4
Legitimate Infants per 1,000				legitimate live births	...				43.08
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000				illegitimate live births	...				111.1
Deaths from :									
Measles (all ages)...				...					2
Whooping Cough (all ages)				...					<i>Nil</i>
Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)									2
Cancer (all ages)				...	...	...			41

The total number of Births was 253, as compared with 286 for the previous year. The Birth Rate being 13.02 per 1,000 of the Estimated Resident Population, against 14.74 for 1937.

The total number of Deaths was 260 ; the Death Rate being 13.3. In 1937 the rate was 10.3.

The deaths of Infants under one year per 1,000 Live Births was 47.4, compared with 41.9 for 1937. This figure compares favourably with the rate for the whole of England and Wales, which is 53.

EXTRACT FROM REGISTRAR-GENERAL'S MORTALITY RETURN FOR THE BOROUGH.

(*Civilians only.*)

1938.

<i>Cause of Death.</i>					<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
All Causes	...	...	...	...	124	136	260
Measles	...	...	...	...	—	2	2
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	3	—	3
Influenza	...	...	...	...	1	1	2
Tuberculosis of respiratory system					4	7	11
Other Tuberculosis			...	...	2	—	2
Cancer	...	...	...	...	15	26	41
Diabetes	...	...	...	...	1	1	2
Cerebral hæmorrhage, etc.			...	...	3	11	14
Heart disease		...	...	...	29	37	66
Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	—	3	3
Pneumonia (all forms)			...	...	12	7	19
Appendicitis		...	...	...	—	1	1
Suicide	...	...	...	...	1	4	5
Other defined causes			...	...	53	36	89

LABORATORY FACILITIES.

Full facilities are available at Windsor Hospital, of which full advantage has been taken.

Water, milk and foods are sent for examination to the Royal Institute of Public Health, London.

LEGISLATION IN FORCE.

All the adoptive acts are in force in the Borough. Byelaws are in force respecting :—

Slaughter Houses.

Keeping of Animals.

Common Lodging Houses

Nuisances by Dogs on

Nuisances.

Footways.

New Streets and Buildings.

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

HOSPITALS USED BY THE INHABITANTS OF THE BOROUGH.

1. **KING EDWARD VII HOSPITAL.**—200 beds, has departments for consultation in all branches of medicine and surgery.

2. **MAIDENHEAD ISOLATION HOSPITAL** for infectious diseases, and certain cases of puerperal pyrexia.

3. **SMALL POX HOSPITAL**, Manor Farm, Reading.

4. **PEPPARD AND ABINGDON HOSPITALS FOR TUBERCULOSIS.** Consultations are held the first Thursday in the month, at the Parish Church Rooms.

FEVER.—The common infectious diseases are admitted to Maidenhead Isolation Hospital.

SCARLET FEVER.—The Scarlet Fever cases were, on the whole, of a mild type.

DIPHTHERIA.—Of the 60 cases of Diphtheria, 20 occurred in Windsor Hospital, and 13 were non-faucial.

The cases in the Borough showed great variance in virulency. Four were almost moribund when first seen by a doctor, but the majority were of average severity.

PUERPERAL FEVER AND PYREXIA.—In cases of Puerperal Fever, when it is considered detrimental for the patients to make the journey to the special L.C.C. Hospital at Hampstead, arrangements have been made for their admission to Maidenhead Isolation Hospital.

The 3 cases of Puerperal Pyrexia all made a good recovery.

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.—Such cases are admitted to L.C.C. Special Hospitals.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

The Report of the Health Visitor will be found in another part of the Annual Report and I should like to express my personal appreciation of the excellent work done by Miss McAllister. It has been a great boon to have an additional Welfare Centre on the Tuesdays, and Dr. Yardley very kindly attends there every other week.

CHILDREN.—King Edward VII Hospital has a Children's Ward. An Orthopædic Surgeon attends regularly at the Hospital and certain cases have been admitted to Wingfield Orthopædic Hospital, Oxford.

The Princess Christian Creche is now a residential home for children.

AMBULANCE CASES.

There are two ambulances, kept at garages, at different parts of the Borough. The service is adequate, and co-ordination is satisfactory.

The Fever Hospitals have their own ambulances.

CLINIC AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

THE ANTE-NATAL CLINICS.—The Ante-Natal Clinics, held the first and second Monday of each month, have been well attended, and the value of such consultations is very evident. Abnormalities found are referred to the Specialists at Windsor Hospital.

Only abnormal cases are admitted to the Windsor Hospital, which caters for a wide area. There were 113 cases in 1938.

There were 120 cases admitted to the Princess Christian's Maternity Home during the year.

SCHOOL CLINIC, VICTORIA STREET.—For the treatment of minor ailments. Attendances Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, and emergency cases on the other days. The Dental Clinic is also held here Tuesdays and Thursdays for dental treatment and gas extraction.

VENEREAL DISEASES.—Cases attend at the Royal Berkshire Hospital, Reading, or the Radcliffe Infirmary, Oxford.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF AREA.

WATER.—The Waterworks are situated in Tangier Lane off Eton High Street. The water is obtained from the percolation of river water by sinking iron cylinders into the chalk bed. It is then purified by passage through Candy "De Clor" pressure filters. The supply is constant and the regular samples examined have shewn it to be bacteriologically free and of the highest purity.

All the men whose work entails contact with the water supply have been examined as to the possibility of their being typhoid carriers. They were found to be free from infection.

SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS.—The public swimming baths, situate in a backwater of the River Thames, are still unfit owing to contamination and the adverse reports from the Bacteriologist. The public use them to a limited extent, but entirely at their own risk. School children are forbidden to use them in School hours.

Negotiations are still proceeding as regards a suitable site for an open-air modern swimming pool.

There are no private swimming baths or pools open to the public in the district.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.—The sewerage of the town is efficient and the sewage is disposed of by open irrigation on land at Old Windsor.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.—Only water closets exist in the Borough.

SCAVENGING.—This work is carried out under the supervision of the Borough Engineer. House refuse is collected weekly. Arrangements are also made for the collection of trade refuse. All refuse is removed to the destructor at Dedworth and burnt.

SCHOOLS.—The sanitary condition of the Schools are satisfactory; their water supply is obtained from the town supply.

SHOPS ACT, 1934, AND ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

Details of work under these headings will be found in the Report of the Sanitary Inspector.

CAMPING SITES.

Number of sites in area	...	...	...	...	...	1
Number of licences issued	...	...	...	...	...	1
Estimated maximum number of campers during summer season	...	...	...	...	...	30

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR 1938.

(Other than Tuberculosis.)

The following table shows the number of cases of infectious disease notified during the past year.

<i>Disease</i>	<i>Total cases notified</i>	<i>Cases admitted to Hospital</i>	<i>Total Deaths</i>
Small Pox	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	43	29	—
Diphtheria	60	58	3
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)	2	1	—
Puerperal Fever	3	2	—
Pneumonia	9	—	—
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis ...	1	1	—
Erysipelas	4	2	—

The following table gives the age-group of the above notified cases :—

<i>Disease</i>	Under 1 Year	1	2	3	4	5	10	15	20	35	45	65 and over
Scarlet Fever ...	—	2	4	6	1	15	9	1	2	3	—	—
Diphtheria ...	—	1	1	4	3	25	13	6	5	1	1	—
Puerperal Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—
Pneumonia ...	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	1	—	2	2	1
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Erysipelas ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	—
Enteric (group)	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—

TUBERCULOSIS.
NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1938.

<i>Age Periods</i>	<i>New Cases.</i>				<i>Deaths.</i>			
	<i>Respiratory</i>		<i>Non-Resp.</i>		<i>Respiratory</i>		<i>Non-Resp.</i>	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0 years ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1 year ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5 years ...	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
15 „ ...	—	4	—	—	—	2	2	—
25 „ ...	3	1	—	—	2	—	—	—
35 „ ...	2	1	—	—	1	1	—	—
45 „ ...	2	1	—	—	1	4	—	—
55 „ ...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 & upwards ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
<i>Totals ...</i>	8	8	1	—	4	7	2	—

PUBLIC HEALTH (PREVENTION OF TUBERCULOSIS) REGULATIONS, 1925.—No action was taken under these Regulations.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936 (Sec. 172).—No action was necessary under this enactment.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

1.—INSPECTIONS for purposes of Provisions as to Health.

(Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspector.)

<i>Premises.</i>	<i>Number of</i>		
	<i>Inspections</i>	<i>Written Notices.</i>	<i>Occupiers prosecuted.</i>
Factories :			
With mechanical power ...	21	1	<i>Nil</i>
Without mechanical power	10	1	<i>Nil</i>
Other Premises under the Act	22	<i>Nil</i>	<i>Nil</i>
<i>Total ...</i>	53	2	<i>Nil</i>

2. DEFECTS FOUND.

<i>Particulars.</i>	<i>Number of Defects</i>			<i>Prosecutions instituted.</i>
	<i>Found</i>	<i>Remedied</i>	<i>Referred to H.M. Inspector</i>	
Want of Cleanliness ...	1	1	<i>Nil</i>	<i>Nil</i>
Sanitary Conveniences, unsuitable or defective	3	3	<i>Nil</i>	<i>Nil</i>

OUTWORK IN UNWHOLESOME PREMISES.**Section 111.**

There were no instances of outwork being done upon unwholesome premises.

I have the honour to be, Mr. Mayor and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

A. DOUGLAS CROFTS,

Medical Officer of Health.

Borough of New Windsor

Annual Report of the Health Visitor For the Year 1938.

Notification has been received of 408 births during the past year, including 31 still-births.

One hundred and seventy-five of the notifications, including 21 of the still-births, were of births to families who were not residents of the town ; these were transferred, in connection with the Maternity and Child Welfare Scheme, to the Public Health Authorities of the areas to which they belong.

Reports of any births not notified were obtained from the Registrar and also notices of deaths of infants under one year of age, to which, together with cases of still-births, special visits have been made in accordance with the requirements of the Ministry of Health.

There are 841 families recorded in the current visiting register, with approximately 1,261 infants and children to be visited.

Notified births are generally visited after a fortnight and re-visited as regularly as possible, until the children enter school. A special report is made to the School Medical Department of any abnormality or serious illness which has occurred during the pre-school life of the child. Cases requiring medical advice and treatment are frequently found during visits. These subsequently attend the Infant Welfare Centre, where early treatment in many cases has prevented more serious results. When necessary, cases are referred to the Hospital.

Cases of overcrowding, insanitary housing or drainage conditions, etc., which have come to notice, have been reported to and dealt with by the Sanitary Inspector.

Following the usual procedure, at the time when the Regiments quartered at the Barracks changed during the autumn, the Commanding Officer of each Regiment furnished a list of families in married quarters at the respective Barracks, showing the infants and children under school age, actually numbering 41.

The families were invited to attend the Infant Welfare Centres, of which privilege a number of mothers took advantage.

Visits have also been made to infants and children in the Barracks and others moving with the Regiments into the town.

During the year the following visits were made :

To infants under 1 year	...	...	...	...	1313
To children 1 to 5 years...	...	...	...	...	2125
Special visits	...	...	...	...	128
First visits to infants under 1 year	...	...	...	...	253
In connection with deaths of infants under 1 year	...	...	...	...	6
In connection with still-births	...	...	...	...	8
In connection with the registration of boarded-out children	...	...	...	...	40
Visits to families	...	...	...	...	2987
Total number of visits	...	...	...	...	3873

In October, the Council agreed to appoint Miss Hills as a whole-time assistant, and she is now engaged in keeping records of visits, etc., dealing with accounts and other clinical work and the sale of foods, and assisting generally at both the Centres.

THE INFANT WELFARE CENTRES.

The Windsor Infant Welfare Centre is held at the Clinic, Victoria Street, Windsor, on Friday afternoons from 2 to 4.30 p.m. The Clewer Infant Welfare Centre is held at the Clewer Parish Hall on Tuesday afternoons, from 2 to 4.30 p.m.

The following were the attendances at both Centres during the year :

	<i>Windsor</i>			<i>Clewer</i>	
Infants under 1 year	2969	...	1142
Children 1 to 5 years	1902	...	1118
Total attendance of infants and toddlers	4871	...	2260
Average attendance for weekly session	106	...	55
Children attending for the first time during the year—

(a) Infants under 1 year

(b) Children 1 to 5 years

The percentage attendance of total notified living births, as adjusted by transferred notifications, was 94% (*i.e.*, 94 infants attended the Centres out of every 100 living births).

The work of the Infant Welfare Centres is steadily increasing, especially at the Clewer Centre. One of the objects in opening another Centre at Clewer was to try and relieve the large atten-

dances at Windsor ; this has to some extent been effected. The total attendances at Windsor have decreased this year from 4,971 in 1937 to 4,871 in 1938 ; and have increased at Clewer from 1,875 in 1937 to 2,260 in 1938 ; which shows that more mothers are taking advantage of the auxiliary centre.

The doctor attends at the Clewer Centre on alternate Tuesdays.

During 1938, no less than 7,131 attendances were made by infants and children at the centres. The following table shows how much more widely the Centres are being used and how the attendances have increased during the last 10 years ; the numbers have almost doubled.

<i>Year</i>				<i>Total attendances during the year</i>
1928	...	...	...	3891
1929	...	...	...	4285
1930	...	...	...	4458
1931	...	...	...	5367
1932	...	...	...	4986
1933	...	...	...	5211
1934	...	...	...	4813
1935	...	...	...	4233
1936	...	...	...	5589 (Clewer Centre opened)
1937	...	...	...	6846
1938	...	...	...	7131

Only those who are responsible for the smooth running of the Centres can fully appreciate the splendid assistance given by the Voluntary Committee of ladies, which never fails to provide an adequate staff for the necessary work of each session. This is no small undertaking, the full complement of staff on Toddlers' Clinic days is twelve.

THE TODDLERS CLINIC.

The special Clinic for Toddlers between the age of 2 years and School age is held at the Welfare Centre on the first Friday of each month.

Each child is examined by the Medical Officer, whose notes on the child are subsequently passed on to the School Medical Department, when the child enters School. By this arrangement it is possible for a child to remain under medical supervision from birth to school-leaving age.

One hundred and eighty-eight attendances were made at this special Toddlers Clinic during the year. This figure is not yet sufficiently high to be satisfactory. In future, the first Friday

in each month at the Victoria Street Centre, will be reserved especially for toddlers (*i.e.*, children between 2 and 5 years of age). On these days there will be no weighing and only new babies and other urgent cases will be seen by the doctor. Foods will be sold as usual. It is hoped that by this arrangement many more toddlers will attend for special examination.

FOODS AND DRIED MILKS.

The sale of foods and certain medicines at practically whole-sale prices is a great benefit to the mothers, who are enabled by this arrangement to purchase some of the best and most reliable infant foods at prices which they can afford to pay. The value to the infants who have to be artificially fed, of receiving during the first year of life good and nourishing food, instead of an unsuitable and deficient diet, cannot be over-estimated.

Grants of free milk (fresh and dried) and other nourishments have been made in many necessitous cases after careful investigation of the circumstances, so as to avoid the possibility of over-lapping with other sources of assistance.

The additional nourishment given to the mothers in this way has made it possible in several instances for them to continue breast feeding their infants. The expenditure in this direction has increased very much lately. This is probably due to a number of reasons :

- (a) The wider use of the Clinics and extension of the work generally ;
- (b) The growth of the Borough through building, especially in the Clewer-Dedworth area ;
- (c) The prevalence of unemployment and epidemic illness ;
- (d) The unusual severity of the winter.

A total quantity of 1,014 gallons of liquid milk and 4,848lbs. of dried milk has been purchased by the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee for sale at cost price and free distribution during the year.

Items from the Statement of Accounts.

January 1st, 1938—December 31st, 1938.

						£	s.	d.
Purchase of foods and dried milks, etc., for sale at								
cost price	...	...	...	...	...	664	14	11
Sale of ditto at cost price	...	...	...	...	...	515	5	5
						<hr/>		
						£149	9	6
						<hr/>		

	£	s.	d.
Purchase of milk for <i>free</i> distribution to necessitous cases 	79	11	4
	<hr/>		
	£	s.	d.
Value of food and dried milk distributed <i>free of charge</i> to necessitous cases 	127	19	9
	<hr/>		

This included the following items :

Dried Milk	...	...	...	...	1,243lbs.
Ovaltine	...	...	...	...	24 tins
Cod Liver Oil and Malt	...	...	...	...	50lbs.
Cod Liver Oil Malt and Parishes Food					10lbs.
Pure Cod Liver Oil	...	...	...	...	150 (8oz. bottles)
Cod Liver Oil Emulsion	...	...	...	...	93 (10oz. bottles)
Virol	...	...	...	...	21½lbs.
Roboleine	...	...	...	...	23½lbs.
Glucose D	...	...	...	...	57¾lbs.
Bemax	...	...	...	...	11lbs.
Maltoline	...	...	...	...	53 tins
Ointment	...	...	...	...	Value 6s. 2d.

THE ANTE-NATAL AND POST-NATAL CLINIC.

The Ante-Natal and Post-Natal Clinic is held on the second Monday of each month at the Clinic, Victoria Street, at 3 p.m. The attendances at this Clinic number 205, as compared with 137 last year. (This figure does not include the numbers attending at Princess Christian's Maternity Home, which are given in the report of the Medical Officer of Health.)

BOARDED-OUT CHILDREN.

There are 5 children registered under the Children's Act, 1908 (Part I) and the Children and Young Persons' Act, 1932 (Part V) and 5 persons registered as foster parents.

At the commencement of the year there were 7 children registered, 3 additional children have been registered and the names of 5 removed from the register. Forty visits have been made in this connection and on every occasion conditions were found to be satisfactory.

A. I. McALLISTER,
Health Visitor.

Borough of New Windsor

Annual Report of the Sanitary Inspector For the Year 1938.

TO THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS OF
THE BOROUGH OF NEW WINDSOR.

MR. MAYOR AND GENTLEMEN,

I respectfully submit for your consideration my REPORT upon the work done by my Department during the year 1938.

HOUSING.

INSPECTION OF DWELLING-HOUSES DURING THE YEAR.

- | | | |
|-----|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|
| (1) | Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) | 237 |
| | Number of inspections made | 882 |
| (2) | Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded | 141 |
| | Number of inspections made... .. | 660 |
| (3) | Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation | 58 |
| (4) | Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation | 62 |

REMEDY OF DEFECTS DURING THE YEAR WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES :

- | | |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|
| Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers | 60 |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|

ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR :

A. *Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—*

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	...	...	0
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :			
(a) By Owners	...	...	0
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners	...		0

B. *Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—*

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	...	...	...	...	0
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :					
(a) By Owners	...	...	...	...	0
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners	...				0

C. *Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—*

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	...	...	...	39
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	...	...	...	2

D. *Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—*

(1) Number of separate tenements in respect of which Closing Orders were made	...	...	...	2
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	...	...	...	0

Undertakings from Owners.

Twelve undertakings not to re-let for human habitation when the houses became empty were accepted by the Council.

One undertaking to execute repairs was accepted and complied with.

Two undertakings given in 1937 to execute repairs were complied with during 1938.

Other Demolitions.

Nos. 162, 164, 166, St. Leonard's Road were demolished by the owner after informal action by the Health Department.

Other Unfit Houses.

Nos. 1 to 7, St. George's Place, Dedworth, were purchased by the Council with a view to road widening. These houses are now empty, most of the occupants having been re-housed by the Council.

Charles Street Clearance Area.

The 33 houses in this area are now empty, most of the occupants having been re-housed by the Council.

Legal Proceedings.

Legal proceedings were taken against a tenant in the Charles Street Clearance Area for failing to quit after notice had been served. An Order for possession within twenty-one days was made. Only one person was living in the house.

OVERCROWDING.

The position with regard to overcrowding is :

Number of dwellings overcrowded, 31st December, 1938	...	34
Number of families dwelling therein	... ..	38
Number of persons dwelling therein	... ..	223
Number of new cases reported during the year	... ..	5
Number of cases relieved during the year	... ..	6
Number of persons concerned in such cases	... ..	32½

There was no case in which overcrowding recurred after action to abate overcrowding.

SANITARY DEFECTS AND NUISANCES.

The following is a list of sanitary defects and nuisances discovered during the year :—

Defects in house drains	... ..	54
Obstructed drains	... ..	17
Dilapidated water closets	... ..	14
Defective W.C. roofs, floors, walls, basins, doors, seats	... ..	60
Defective W.C. flushing cisterns and water pipes	... ..	14
Insufficient water closet accommodation	... ..	1
Absence of, and insanitary sinks	... ..	37
Insufficient water supplies	... ..	7
Dirty walls and ceilings of rooms	... ..	263
Insanitary yard surfaces	... ..	26

Sculleries and washhouses, defective roofs, floors, walls, doors	64
Insufficient refuse receptacles	43
Defective house roofs, walls, floors, stairs, etc.	170
Defective windows	85
Decayed plastering	87
Defective ceilings	72
Damp walls	160
Absence of sufficient light or ventilation	46
Absence of proper food storage	41
Absence of sufficient facilities for washing	2
Accumulations of offensive matter	11
Overcrowding	5
Verminous houses	56
Defective chimneys	8
Defective fire grates and stoves	18
Defective spouting	29
Defective coppers	9
Keeping of animals, causing a nuisance	11
Miscellaneous	7
<i>Total</i>	<hr/> 1417 <hr/>

NOTICES.

The following statement shows the number of notices served for the abatement of the defects and nuisances discovered during 1938 :

Notices not complied with 31/12/37 ...	Informal	...	4
Notices not complied with 31/12/37 ...	Formal	...	0
Notices and intimations			
given since 31/12/37 ...	Informal	...	146
Notices served since 31/12/37 ...	Formal	...	10
Notices not complied with 31/12/38 ...	Informal	...	14
Notices not complied with 31/12/38 ...	Formal	...	0

COMPLAINTS.

One hundred and ninety-two complaints were received, relating to the various matters set out below :

Housing defects	20
Nuisances from rats	61
Defective and stopped drains	10

Offensive accumulations	...	...	...	...	...	3
Defective water closets	...	...	...	...	...	5
No proper refuse receptacles	...	...	...	...	...	41
Dirty premises	...	...	...	...	...	2
Verminous premises	...	...	...	...	...	18
Nuisances from bad smells	...	...	...	...	...	13
Nuisances from smoke	...	...	...	...	...	1
Overcrowded premises	...	...	...	...	...	2
Nuisances caused by keeping animals	...	...	...	...	...	2
Nuisances from wasps, bees, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	8
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	6
						192

MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION.

Slaughter Houses.—There are four registered Slaughter Houses in your district. Under the Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933, one slaughterman was licensed.

The following is a statement of the various diseases, etc., met with in the course of 627 visits to slaughter houses during the year :

	<i>Cattle excluding Cows</i>	<i>Cows</i>	<i>Calves</i>	<i>Sheep and Lambs</i>	<i>Pigs</i>
Number killed (if known) ...	72	—	98	774	876
Number inspected	72	—	98	774	876
All diseases except tuberculosis :					
Whole carcasses condemned ...	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	2	—	—	4	4
Percentage of the number in- spected affected with disease other than tuberculosis ...	2.8	—	—	.51	.45
Tuberculosis only :					
Whole carcasses condemned ...	—	—	—	—	5
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	2	—	—	—	4
Percentage of the number in- spected affected with tuber- culosis	2.8	—	—	—	1.02

OTHER FOODS.

Visits to premises where other foods are sold, or prepared for sale, numbered 224, and the various foods set out below were found to be unfit for human consumption.

TABLE SHOWING ARTICLES OF FOOD FOUND TO BE DISEASED
OR UNSOUND AND UNFIT FOR THE FOOD OF MAN.

<i>Articles</i>	<i>Number of Condemn- ations</i>	<i>Weight in lbs.</i>	<i>Reason for Condemnation</i>
Imported Beef ...	39	982	Decomposed
Imported Beef ...	3	32	Bruised
Imported Beef ...	7	140	Fat infiltration
Imported Mutton ...	1	16	Decomposed
Imported Lambs' Livers	4	50	Decomposed
Imported Pork ...	1	14	Decomposed
Imported Beasts' Livers	2	25	Decomposed
Imported Pigs Livers	1	40	Decomposed
English Rabbits ...	9	297	Decomposed
Corned Beef	6	122	Decomposed
Tinned Veal	1	156	Decomposed
Tinned Tongue	2	48	Decomposed
English Pigs' Plucks ...	1	50	Decomposed
Danish Cured Ham ...	1	14	Decomposed
Bacon	1	11	Decomposed
Chicken	1	4	Tuberculosis
Chinese Eggs	7	275	Decomposed
Haddock, Filleted ...	1	14	Decomposed
Herrings	1	56	Decomposed
Hake	1	40	Decomposed
Mackerel	1	42	Decomposed
<i>Totals</i> ...	91	2428	

With regard to food premises other than slaughter houses, my attention is often called by shopkeepers to various articles of food which are unfit when they are received. In such cases a certificate is given to enable the retailer to claim from the wholesaler.

FOOD AND DRUGS.

The following table shows the number of samples of Food taken and submitted to the Public Analyst for analysis, the results of such analysis and action taken :

<i>Article</i>	<i>Number Examined</i>				<i>Number Adulterated, etc.</i>			
	<i>Formal</i>	<i>In- formal</i>	<i>Private</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Formal</i>	<i>In- formal</i>	<i>Private</i>	<i>Total</i>
Milk	26	—	—	26	2	—	—	2
Sausages	3	—	—	3	—	—	—	—
Butter	7	—	—	7	—	—	—	—
Cheese	4	—	—	4	—	—	—	—
Cream	3	—	—	3	—	—	—	—
Tea	2	—	—	2	—	—	—	—
Vinegar	2	—	—	2	—	—	—	—
Lard	2	—	—	2	—	—	—	—
Margarine	2	—	—	2	—	—	—	—
Tinned Cream	2	—	—	2	—	—	—	—
Mincemeat	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Jam	3	—	—	3	—	—	—	—
Cocoa	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Fish Paste	4	—	—	4	—	—	—	—
Olive Oil	4	—	—	4	—	—	—	—
Coffee	2	—	—	2	—	—	—	—
Sugar	5	—	—	5	—	—	—	—
<i>Totals</i>	73	—	—	73	2	—	—	2

ADULTERATED SAMPLES, ETC.

<i>Serial Num- ber</i>	<i>Article</i>	<i>Formal Informal Private</i>	<i>Nature of Adulteration or Irregularity</i>	<i>Observations</i>
18	Milk ...	Formal	7.88% added water ...	Letter of warning
			24.66% deficient in fat ...	Vendor gave up selling milk
31	Milk ...	Formal	11.33% deficient in fat ...	Proceedings taken (£2 fine, 10s. 6d. costs)

Action taken by Local Authority in regard to each sample not reported as genuine by the Public Analyst :

Serial No. 18.—Letter of warning.

Serial No. 31.—Legal proceedings taken.

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS.

Eleven samples of milk were sent to the Laboratories at the Royal Institute of Health for bacteriological examination. All samples, except one, were reported to comply with the prescribed conditions. This sample was pasteurised milk and the producer was warned.

Legal proceedings were instituted against a dairyman for :

1. Pasteurising milk without holding a pasteurising licence ;
2. For selling Tuberculin Tested milk without holding the necessary licence ;

In each case a fine of £2 was imposed.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND MILKSHOPS.

The following are registered under the various Orders and Regulations :

Retail Purveyors of Milk	...	...	...	...	...	29
Dairymen	...	...	...	...	...	17
Wholesale Producers of Milk	...	...	...	...	...	4
Cowkeepers	...	...	...	...	...	4

The number of cows kept in the district is about 100 ; the various premises have been regularly inspected.

Eight Dairymen are licensed to sell Tuberculin Tested Milk, two to sell Accredited Milk and four to sell Pasteurised Milk.

CANAL BOATS.

Several visits were made to the riverside ; on no occasion was any canal boat discovered.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

The Sanitary conveniences at the two Common Lodging Houses have been regularly inspected ; they have been kept in good order.

RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION.

During the year, 1,441 visits were made to various premises for the purpose of destroying rats and mice.

The number of rats found dead was 397, the number caught in traps was 189.

MERCHANDISE MARKS ACT.

Thirty inspections were made for the purposes of this Act ; the requirements of the Act as to Marking, etc., have been well observed.

SHOPS ACT.

Ten inspections were made under the Shops Act ; each of the premises were satisfactory.

DISINFECTION.

In infectious cases, bedding and clothing are removed to the Steam Disinfector at Dedworth. The rooms are sprayed and fumigated. During the year disinfections were as follows :

Articles of clothing and bedding disinfected	...	...	3676
Articles of clothing and bedding destroyed	...	...	703
Rooms disinfected	...	...	187

BED BUGS.

The eradication of bed bugs during the warm months takes a great deal of time. During the year the following work was carried out :

Council Houses found to be infested	...	...	10
Council Houses disinfecting	...	...	10
Other Houses found to be infested	...	...	46
Other Houses disinfecting	...	...	46

In the 10 Council houses, 26 rooms were affected, and in the 46 other houses, 86 rooms.

The method adopted for freeing houses from bed bugs is to spray with an insecticide ; two sprayings with an interval of eight days between being the usual process. In bad infestations, one of the proprietary fumigating blocks, used in conjunction with an insecticide, has given good results. The work is carried out by the department. The fumigating blocks used are Cimex, the principal insecticide used is Zaldecide.

Where tenants of infested houses are known to be removing to a Council house, the house they are vacating is disinfecting ; bedding disinfected by steam, and furniture sprayed, before removal.

OTHER PESTS.

The department was called upon to help in the destruction of other pests, as under :

Ants	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Wasps	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
Beetles	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS, ETC.

Visits <i>re</i> Overcrowding	...	...	...	...	...	8
Slaughter House Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	627
Food Shops, Stalls, etc., inspected	...	...	...	...	...	224
Housing Act Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	141
Housing Act Re-Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	660
Houses inspected under the Public Health Acts	...	...	...	...	...	96
Re-Inspections under the Public Health Acts	...	...	...	...	...	222
Dairy, Cowshed and Milkshop Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	24
Visits <i>re</i> Infectious Disease and Disinfection	...	...	...	...	...	66
Inspections <i>re</i> Complaints	...	...	...	...	...	192
Drain Tests and Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	155
Inspections <i>re</i> Nuisances	...	...	...	...	...	98
Inspections under Merchandise Marks Act	...	...	...	...	...	30
Visits <i>re</i> Rats and Mice	...	...	...	...	...	1441
Factories and Workshops inspected...	...	...	...	...	...	53
Common Lodging House Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	14
Ice Cream, Visits <i>re</i> Manufacture and Sale...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Inspections under Shops Act	...	...	...	...	...	10
Miscellaneous Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	15
Interviews with Owners, Builders, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	91
<i>Total</i>	...	...	...	...	...	4173

I am,

Mr. Mayor and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

F. ARNOLD,

Chief Sanitary Inspector.

